

Remarks:

Applicants (hereinafter, Applicant) hereby request reconsideration of the application.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's confirmation of receipt of the claim for priority and certified copy of the priority application under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).

Claims 1-6 & 9-12 are now in the application. Claims 1 & 11-12 have been amended. For support see original claims 7-8. No new matter has been added. Claims 7-8 have been cancelled without prejudice.

In item 1 on page 2 of the Office action, claims 1-12 have been rejected as being fully anticipated by Schmersel (U.S. Pat. No. 6,055,302) under 35 U.S.C. § 102.

The rejection has been noted and the claims have been amended in an effort to even more clearly define the invention of the instant application.

Before discussing the prior art in detail, it is believed that a brief review of the invention as claimed, would be helpful.

Claim 1 calls for, inter alia, a method for implementing telecommunication services in a telecommunications network, which comprises the steps of:

generating a virtual telephone number via the telecommunication service after activating the telecommunication service;

signaling the virtual telephone number to a service provider, the service provider in turn indicating an occurrence of the event;

using a switching point to transmit the virtual telephone number from the service provider to initiate the telecommunication service after the occurrence of the event;
and

carrying out actions defined for the telecommunication service. (Emphasis added.)

Accordingly, the present invention is directed to a method for initiating a telecommunication service, which is independent of a call being set up after initiation by a service user. The application protocol (the IN Service Logic) is initiated by a so-called external trigger, or else a virtual trigger.

The Schmersel reference discloses a system and method for conforming the service profiles for non-call-related store-and-forward messages to those applicable to calls in an Intelligent Network (IN) telecommunications system containing several Intelligent Peripherals (IPs) connected to a Service Control Point (SCP) over a network. When an IP that handle outgoing calls and messages receives an outgoing message or when an IP, handling incoming calls, is queried by a subscriber, the IP interrogates the SCP to determine whether any IN services such as restriction control and number translation have been requested, selected or imposed by the sending or the receiving parties. The SCP acknowledges the interrogation and returns the generated results to the IP for further processing, optionally, by retrieving and analyzing a service script corresponding to either the originating or the terminating party.

In other words, Schmersel discloses the call structure in an IN network standardized according to Q.1201, (which is already known, as mentioned by the Examiner). See col. 8, line 59 to col. 9, line 4; col. 9, lines 28 to 36; Fig. 2.

However, the element virtual telephone number is now added to claim 1. For support see page 6, lines 6++. When the desired service is activated, the virtual telephone number is

generated, and the telephone number is converted in the SCP as soon as this telephone number is dialed. This differs from a normal "call forward" in that several subscribers can be registered under this virtual telephone number; so that this is not a 1:1, but a 1:n conversion. Furthermore, a common connection setup is not triggered with this virtual telephone number, but actions of any type can be triggered (i.e., the transmittal of a text message or the like). Additionally, the initiation of the service is by an element, which is entirely different from the connection setup. In the illustrated case of the present invention, this is a flight information service, where the initiating element is the delay of a flight.

Clearly, the reference does not show *"generating a virtual telephone number via the telecommunication service after activating the telecommunication service; signaling the virtual telephone number to a service provider, the service provider in turn indicating an occurrence of the event; using a switching point to transmit the virtual telephone number from the service provider to initiate the telecommunication service after the occurrence of the event; and carrying out actions defined for the telecommunication service"*, as recited in claim 1 of the instant application (emphasis added). Thus, neither can the specific combination of the aforementioned

limitations be shown. Claims 11-12 recite similar limitations.

It is accordingly believed to be clear that none of the references, whether taken alone or in any combination, either show or suggest the features of claims 1, 11 or 12. Claims 1, 11 & 12 are, therefore, believed to be patentable over the art and since all of the dependent claims are ultimately dependent on claim 1, they are believed to be patentable as well.

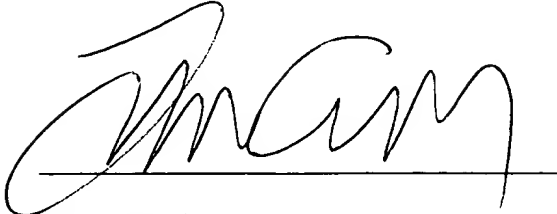
In view of the foregoing, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-6 and 9-12 are solicited.

In the event the Examiner should still find any of the claims to be unpatentable, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone counsel so that, if possible, patentable language can be worked out.

Please charge any fees which might be due with respect to Sections 1.16 and 1.17 to the Deposit Account of Lerner and

Greenberg, P.A., No. 12-1099.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'J. M. Greenberg', written over a horizontal line.

For Applicant

VRP:cgm

February 6, 2002

Lerner and Greenberg, P.A.

Post Office Box 2480

Hollywood, FL 33022-2480

Tel: (954) 925-1100

Fax: (954) 925-1101

09/716,898

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

In the claims:

Claim 1 (amended). A method for implementing telecommunication services in a telecommunications network, which comprises the steps of:

initiating a telecommunication service due to an event which differs from a connection setting-up request from a subscriber; [and]

generating a virtual telephone number via the telecommunication service after activating the telecommunication service;

signaling the virtual telephone number to a service provider, the service provider in turn indicating an occurrence of the event;

using a switching point to transmit the virtual telephone number from the service provider to initiate the telecommunication service after the occurrence of the event;

and

carrying out actions defined for the telecommunication service.

Claim 11 (amended). An apparatus for carrying out initiation of telecommunication services, comprising:

first memory means for storing a telecommunication service;

second memory means for storing activation information relating to the telecommunication service;

execution means for carrying out the telecommunication service using the activation information and connected to said first memory means and said second memory means; [and]

means for generating a virtual telephone number via the telecommunication service after activating the telecommunication service;

means for signaling the virtual telephone number to a service provider, the service provider in turn indicating an occurrence of an event;

a switching point for transmitting the virtual telephone number from the service provider to initiate the

telecommunication service after the occurrence of the event;
and

receiving means for receiving external events, in which case,
after receiving an [the] event, the telecommunication service
is carried out with an aid of the activation information, said
receiving means connected to said execution means.

Claim 12 (amended). An apparatus for carrying out initiation
of telecommunication services, comprising:

a first memory unit for storing a telecommunication service;

a second memory unit for storing activation information
relating to the telecommunication service;

an execution unit for carrying out the telecommunication
service using the activation information and connected to said
first memory unit and said second memory unit; [and]

a switching point for transmitting a virtual telephone number
from a service provider to initiate the telecommunication
service after an occurrence of an event; and

a receiving unit for receiving external events, in which case,
after receiving [an] the event, the telecommunication service

is carried out with an aid of the activation information, said receiving unit connected to said execution unit.